

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A device for monitoring a first person requiring
2 supervision, comprising:

3 a controller programmed to receive at least one monitor
4 signal from an environment monitor located in a monitored zone;

5 said controller being programmed to classify at least one
6 alarm condition threatening to said first person responsively to
7 said environment monitor to produce class data; and

8 said controller being programmed to generate an alarm
9 signal responsively to said class data, said alarm signal
10 including at least a portion of said monitor signal at least one
11 of immediately prior to or immediately after an incidence of
12 said alarm condition.

1 2. A device as in claim 1, wherein said at least one
2 monitor signal includes at least one of a still image, video,
3 and audio data.

1 3. A device as in claim 1, wherein said controller is
2 programmed to recognize faces and said alarm condition is
3 responsive to one of a recognition of a face or a failure to
4 recognize a face.

1 4. A device as in claim 3, wherein said controller is
2 programmed to solicit an action by an occupant, said monitor
3 signal being responsive to said action by said occupant.

1 5. A device as in claim 1, wherein said controller is
2 programmed to solicit an action by an occupant, said monitor
3 signal being responsive to said action by said occupant.

1 6. A device as in claim 1, wherein said controller is
2 programmed to recognize a speaker's voice, said alarm signal
3 being responsive to one of a recognition of said speaker's voice
4 and a failure to recognize said speaker's voice.

1 7. A device as in claim 1, wherein said at least one
2 monitor signal includes a detector configured to detect a lapse
3 in breathing by said person.

1 8. A device as in claim 1, wherein said alarm signal
2 includes at least a portion of said monitor signal immediately
3 prior to and immediately after an incidence of said alarm
4 condition.

1 9. A device as in claim 1 wherein said alarm signal
2 includes at least one of an audio signal, text data signal, and
3 a video signal.

1 10. A monitoring system for monitoring the environment of a
2 person requiring supervision, comprising:

3 a controller connected to receive at least one signal from
4 at least one sensor;

5 said at least one sensor generating first and second
6 signals responsive to a first state of a caretaker of said
7 person and a second state of said person, respectively;

8 said controller being programmed to generate a first alarm
9 signal when said first state is outside a first specified range
10 and to generate a second alarm signal when said second state is
11 outside a second specified range.

1 11. A monitoring system as in claim 10, wherein said first
2 alarm signal includes a sample of at least one of said first and
3 second signals.

1 12. A monitoring system as in claim 10, wherein said
2 controller is programmed to generate a message to solicit an
3 action by said caretaker signal when said first state is outside
4 said first specified range.

1 13. A method of monitoring a person requiring supervision,
2 comprising the steps of:

3 generating a first signal indicative of a status of a
4 person or said person's environment;

5 detecting an event requiring the attention of a remote
6 supervisor;

7 transmitting at least a portion of said first signal to
8 said remote supervisor responsively to a result of said step of
9 detecting.

1 14. A method as in claim 13, wherein said step of
2 transmitting includes transmitting an electromagnetic signal
3 including at least one of audio, video, and text data.

1 15. A method as in claim 13, wherein said person is an
2 infant and said step of detecting includes detecting a lapse of
3 breathing of said infant.

1 16. A method as in claim 13, wherein said step of detecting
2 includes detecting at least one of an audio signal and video
3 signal and classifying a predefined pattern in said at least one
4 of an audio signal and a video signal.

1 17. A method as in claim 13, wherein said step of detecting
2 includes detecting behavior of a person other than said child
3 and in said child's environment.

1 18. A method as in claim 13, wherein said step of detecting
2 includes at least one of recognizing a face of said person or
3 another, classifying a body habitus of said person, classifying
4 a physiognomy of said person, detecting a speed of movement of
5 said person or another, detecting a number of persons in an
6 occupied zone, and recognizing a voice signature, said steps of
7 recognizing, classifying, and detecting being automatic machine
8 processes.

1 19. A method as in claim 13, wherein said step of detecting
2 includes detecting a failure of at least one of a movement of
3 said person or another to move, speak, or generate any other
4 detectable activities.